

The Pacific Commercial Advertiser

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U. S. WEATHER BUREAU, January 4.—Last 24 Hours' Rainfall, .00.
Temperature, Max. 74; Min. 64. Weather, fair.

SUGAR.—96 Degree Test Centrifugals, 3.70c. Per Ton, \$74.00.
SS Analysis Beets, 10c. 3/4d. Per Ton, \$82.40.

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HONOLULU, HAWAII TERRITORY, TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 1909.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

A DAY OF OFFICIAL BURLESQUE OPENS THE NEW MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

The Mayor Shows Incompetence and the Supervisors Get Things Snarled.

The City and County of Honolulu was born yesterday at the hour of noon, and the birth pangs were awful. If Speaker Cannon had been present at the initial session of the new Board of Supervisors, he would have learned more about rules and parliamentary procedure than was ever written in his little book; if Noah Webster had listened to the Mayor's inaugural address, he would immediately have issued an appendix to his dictionary; if Sam Johnson could have seen Cummins and Wilson both sitting at his old desk in the road supervisor's office, he would have lapsed into Cossack to say what he thought about it; and if dogs had been admitted at the muzzling of the Mayor, they would have received some ideal pointers on how to chase their tails.

The old Board of Supervisors took the first trick in the political scrap now well under way, abolishing all county offices and rescinding all appointments. This was thought to spike Fern's guns in the matter of the appointments he had made. Then, after the new Board had been seated, the Mayor read his address and announced that there would be nothing more doing. This failed to satisfy the new Supervisors, who forced the calling of a special meeting, and having thus gained an inch proceeded to take an ell. They went ahead and passed rules, called upon Supervisor Logan to act as temporary chairman when the Mayor refused to put the motions, appointed their standing committees, defied the Mayor, demanded their rights as the elected representatives of a free people, and generally proceeded to have their own way. The Mayor, in the meanwhile, floundered around between notes from his secretary, called attention to the law, pleaded for harmony, and finally sat tight and ruled everything and everybody out of order.

Both parties in the Board announced a glorious victory last night. In the meanwhile the party pickets skirmished around the various outposts. The storming parties at the county stables found the gates locked and the Republican holdovers in entrenched possession; at the various quarries the former watchmen locked themselves up with their fuse and giant powder and declined to surrender their keys. By a skillful flank movement Johnny Wilson led his party into the office of the road supervisor and he and Tommy Cummins glared across the boss's desk at each other for the balance of the afternoon, while the new office force watched the old office force trying to appear busy. It had been supposed that the office was locked up against intruders, but an over-zealous clerk had unlocked the door under the impression that he was double-locking it.

This morning, so it is announced by the Democrats, the Republican road-workers are ordered to march out to their work under the marshaling lead of Jim Quinn, the Supervisor named by the bolting majority as chairman of the standing committee on roads and bridges.

This evening, at the first regular meeting of the Board, it is expected that there will be a fight to the finish, with the odds in favor of the Republican majority.

The Mayor proved himself a tactless tactician in his encounter with the Supervisors, while the Supervisors themselves, with their majority to back them up, fussed themselves into wrong positions and made confusion worse confounded. During the whole meeting of the Board yesterday there was not one clarifying statement made.

A motion to override the ruling of the Mayor ruling out of order a motion that he put a motion overriding his ruling on a motion was one of the things debated, and an example, only a trifle exaggerated, of the general trend of the meeting.

Out of it all emerges the fact that Honolulu has a new city government. Ring Out the Old; Ring In the New.

At five minutes before the noon hour yesterday, Chairman Hustace rapped for order at the meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Oahu, that he might announce the changing of the government. All the members were present.

"We are about to close our labor and go out of office, the last Board of Supervisors of the County of Oahu," began Chairman Hustace. "Before we disband, I want to thank the members of this Board and the heads of the various departments for the support they have given me as chairman of this Board. We have made a success of county government, although it ceases from today and city government takes its place.

"The second Board of Supervisors is now adjourned sine die."

New Board Seats Itself.

It was three minutes before time by the official clock when the old Board



CHARLES L. RHODES, SECRETARY
TO THE MAYOR.

MARINE BATTALION WILL BE LOCATED AT CAMP VERY

The Cruiser Buffalo Leaves Mare Island Today for Honolulu, to Arrive Here With Cavalry.

Four hundred marines with fourteen officers leave San Francisco or Mare Island, today for Honolulu, the vanguard of a marine garrison which may in time number two thousand. The marines will be transported on the auxiliary cruiser Buffalo and will arrive here about the same time the two squadrons of the Fifth Cavalry come. In other words over one thousand army and navy men will be added to the population next week.

Captain Rees, commandant of the naval station, stated yesterday that the Buffalo would probably arrive on the 13th or 14th. It is the intention of the naval authorities to establish the battal-

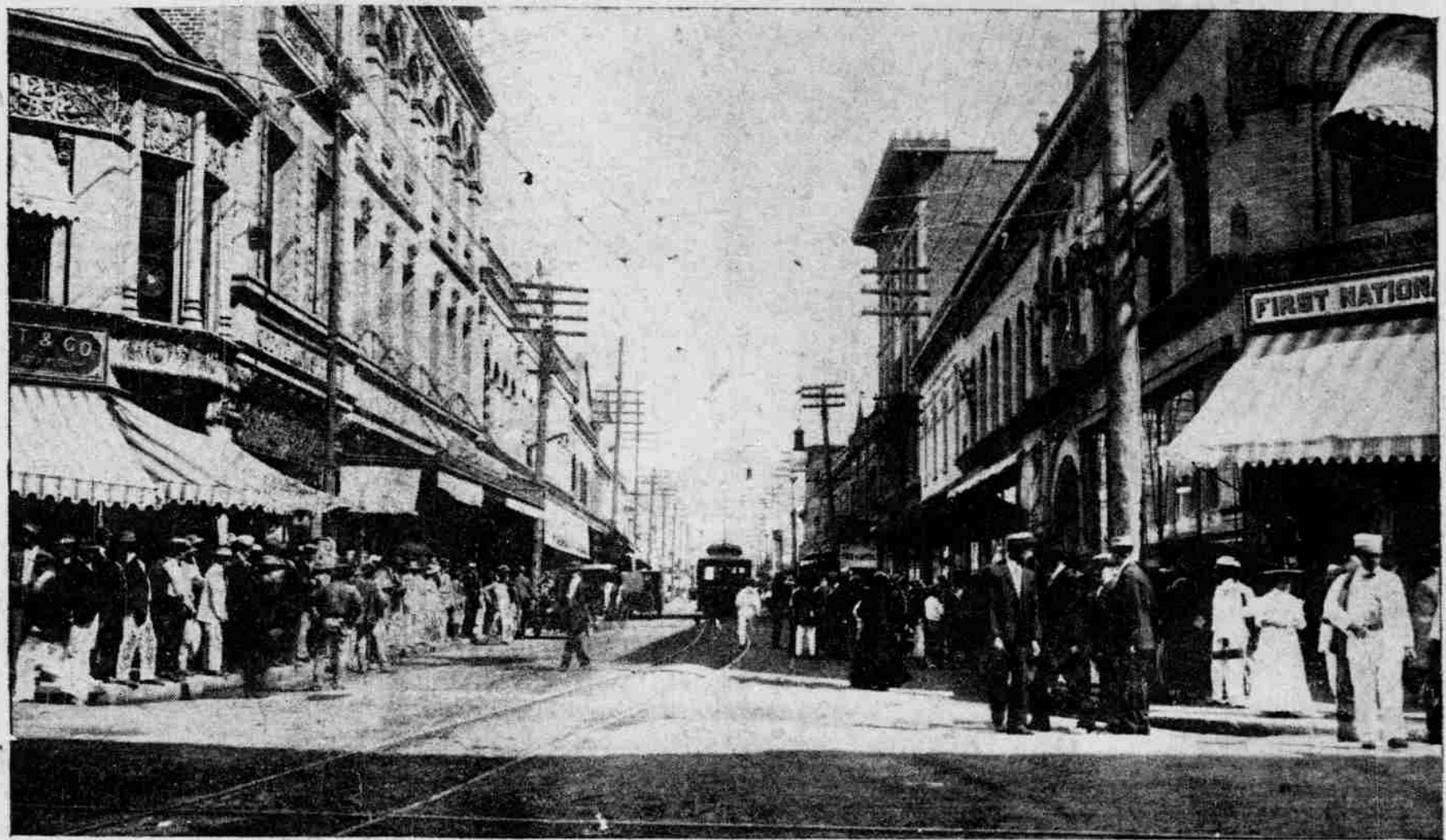


MAYOR JOSEPH J. FERN.

of County Supervisors has adjourned and a new government of this city is about to begin. I want to say that county government has been a success, a government during the past three and a half years of the people and by the people. The last Board met four times every month, and the public had at all times an opportunity to have their wants attended to, not like the Territorial Government, which met only once every two years and compelled the people to wait two years for needed legislation. County government has been a success, and I am proud to say that I had a part in making it a success.

"Now, let me appeal to you, Mr. Mayor and members of the Board of Supervisors, to keep up the good work. My advice to the new members of this Board is that you take off your coats and give your support to the first Mayor of Honolulu, Mr. J. J. Fern." Then, with the majority of the large crowd in the room and thronging the corridor applauding, Mayor Fern took

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CROWD OUTSIDE COUNTY OFFICES, WAITING FOR THE INAUGURATION OF CITY GOVERNMENT.

—Advertiser Photo.

THE AUTOMATIC FRANCHISE

Can the New Corporation Be
Kept Off the
Streets?

Will the new automatic telephone company be deprived of its right to erect poles on the public streets and dig conduits to conceal its wires under the ground? Has the new Board of Supervisors, under the Municipal Act, the power to revoke street privileges given by the Territorial authorities?

These two questions may yet have to be decided by the process of law, for there is a well-defined rumor to the effect that the Mutual Telephone Company will attempt to induce the new Supervisors to refuse the Hawaiian Wireless and Telephone company the right to use the streets. There is a pretty question of law in this matter. The present franchise which the new automatic company holds came from the old wireless company. When Hutchins sprung his big deal, the new company was incorporated and the franchise of the wireless concern was included in the incorporation. This gave the consolidation the necessary right to erect telephone wires or place conduits under the streets. The published plan of the new hullo firm is to run its wires underground in the districts between Kala-kaua avenue and King street to Palama.

The franchise to the wireless company for this purpose was given by the Territorial Superintendent of Public Works when Mr. Holloway was the head of that department. The Municipal Act, while it gives the power over the streets to the Board of Supervisors, is not retroactive, according to one authority. It is stated, however, that the Supervisors may have the right to revoke the street rights which were given the automatic company by Holloway.

E. M. Watson was communicated with but he knew nothing of such proposed action, nor did L. A. Thurston, who is the attorney for the Hawaiian Wireless and Telephone Company. Clinton D. Hutchins stated that such a move was news to him. It is known, however, that there was a conference of Territorial officials on this matter yesterday afternoon.

Rumor has it that the new Supervisors were made aware of their power over the streets by the Mutual Telephone company, or its agent, but Mayor Fern and Supervisor Kane, who were seen, denied that they knew anything about it.

By whom the question was presented to the Territorial officials is not known, and whether or not any action will be taken by them cannot be learned. It is understood that no definite decision on the matter was reached at the conference yesterday.

A MIDNIGHT VIGIL.

Last night the Kakaako stables were in a state of siege. Cummins' men held the inside under command of Lieutenant Coster of the militia, and Wilson's men marched up and down outside. The Road Supervisor has men watching quarries, crushers and rollers for fear the Democrats will capture them.

BOTTOM OF THE STRAIT FORCED UP 1400 FEET

(Associated Press Cablegrams.)

MESSINA, January 5.—The earthquake shocks continue and scientists predict more. Soundings have established the fact that seismic energy has rushed up the bottom of the strait 1400 feet.

RESCUING LIVING VICTIMS.

Ten thousand soldiers are working in the ruins of the city and some victims are still being taken out alive.

SCORPION ARRIVES AT MESSINA.

The U. S. S. Scorpion has arrived here.

THE POPE VISITS SUFFERERS.

ROME, January 5.—Fifteen hundred wounded refugees have been taken to the Vatican hospital, where the Pope visited and blessed them. Many of the sufferers tried to kneel at the Pontiff's feet.

ROYAL COMPLIMENTS.

The King, in a royal order, commends the heroism of the Army and Navy and that of the sailors on the foreign warships.

PARLIAMENT SUMMONED.

Parliament has been convoked on the eleventh.

CULGOA TO HELP.

PORT SAID, January 5.—The Culgoa has sailed for Messina.

AFTERNOON ADVICES.

MESSINA, January 4.—Fifteen thousand people have been rescued from the ruins in this city. The ammunition in the forts has been found uninjured. The cities are being abandoned.

The villages about Reggio have been completely obliterated. Much of the treasure has been recovered and taken to the warships.

WASHINGTON, January 4.—Congress has appropriated \$800,000 for the relief of the Italian sufferers in Sicily.

LARGEST SHINGLE MILL BURNED.

BELLINGHAM, Washington, January 5.—The largest shingle mill in the world burned here last night, involving a loss of \$415,000.

PACIFIC FLEET HEARD FROM.

TALCAHUANO, January 5.—The United States Pacific fleet, Admiral Swinburne commanding, has arrived here.

PALACE FOR OUR EMBASSY.

WASHINGTON, January 5.—The Senate has passed the bill calling for the expenditure of \$400,000 to erect a home for the United States Embassy in Paris.

TRIAL OF CALHOUN.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 4.—The trial of Patrick Calhoun, president of the United Railways, is set for January 12. He is charged with bribery of City Supervisors.

STANDARD OIL WINS.

WASHINGTON, January 4.—The Supreme Court handed down a decision today in the famous case in which the Standard Oil Company was fined \$29,000,000. The decision is against the government.

FLEET ENTERS SUEZ CANAL.

WASHINGTON, January 4.—The first division of the Atlantic battleship fleet entered the Suez Canal today. It has been ordered to proceed to Naples.

BERLIN, January 4.—President Castro of Venezuela underwent an operation today for a disease of the kidneys.

SACRAMENTO, January 4.—The California Legislature met today. Wolfe was elected President of the Senate, and Stanton Speaker of the House.